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GENERAL AGENTS

MILITARY PLANS

(Continued from page nine.)

trained soldier would recognize impregnability when he saw it.

The Philippines are not necessary to our defense, but to lose Hawaii would be a calamity. Hawaii can be made our Gibraltar.

12,000 Men Useless.

Seattle Times: There is no reason for the United States to establish a garrison of 12,000 men in the Hawaiian and Philippine Islands. In case of invasion by a foreign power, this number would be woefully inadequate and the only result would be the slaughter or capture of a larger instead of a smaller body of brave men by an overwhelming force.

If we are going to protect our islands and possessions by force of arms instead of by force of mind, we must equip them with guns, ships and men capable of meeting the sort of resistance which they undoubtedly would meet if they attempted to hold them in the face of an invading army.

We must stock the islands with food capable of sustaining white fighting men—substances which the islands themselves do not produce. We must equip the fortifications with modern guns in far greater quantities than we have heretofore been able to supply. And we must garrison the islands—not with 12,000, but nearer 120,000 troops capable of protecting these fortifications from the rear as the guns of the forts can protect them from the front.

The sending of reinforcements to the garrisons in the islands is a step in the right direction, but it can be considered only as a step. Unless more men are sent after them, this first installment of reinforcements is not only a needless waste of money in transportation, but an actual danger of making of these men a needless sacrifice.

Twelve thousand men would not be a drop in the bucket against such an army as Japan, for instance, would send against the islands if she sent an army at all. Twelve thousand men would have no better chance of defending the islands than two or three thousand men would have.

As a matter of fact, the presence of a larger garrison in the islands—especially when the larger one is so pitifully small—is likely to act as an incentive to attack rather than as a preventive in case of war.

Japanese Increase Here.

New Orleans Item: That it would require an army of 25,000 men to properly guard Hawaii is an opinion credited to General Arthur Murray, chief of the Coast Artillery, who has been in that dependence, making observations as to her defense. The hydrographic department of the government has been asked to furnish information as to the points on her coast where she could be approached by an attacking party wishing to land, and the War Department has declared an intention of thoroughly preparing the island against the possibility of being taken by any other power. The same operations are in process as regards the Philippines.

All this must be mighty pleasant for the Japanese, who constitute a large proportion of the population of Hawaii, if they have any idea of ever seeing their emperor's flag floating above their homes. "Hawaii is the paradise of the Japanese," wrote K.

Tautsuda in a recent issue of the Sinker, a Tokyo monthly. The population of the island is about 190,000 of which almost 100,000 are Japanese. The native Hawaiians number about 20,000, and the Chinese 21,000, while there is only a sprinkling of Americans.

The exclusion agreement entered into between Washington and Tokyo, we are told, proved a severe blow to the Japanese in Hawaii, especially those engaged in business, whose prosperity depends upon Japanese patronage. Yet the agreement has not been wholly without good results. For one thing, it has had the unique result of increasing the birth-rate among the Japanese. This is due to the fact that the new agreement, while prohibiting the coming of laborers, admits women who are the wives of those already residing in Hawaii. The result is that while adult male Japanese are decreasing, the number of female adult Japanese has been steadily increasing.

At present there are some 6400 Japanese children attending public schools maintained by the Hawaiian authorities. These children, besides attending the American schools, spend two or three hours every day in Japanese schools, where instructions are given in Japanese. There are 102 primary schools and a high school, all established and maintained by the Japanese.

American Unpreparedness.

S. F. Post: There is no doubt that the United States has profited to a great extent by the lesson of the Spanish-American War, but there is still much to be learned. For instance, it is reported that 12,000 men are to be sent to Hawaii and the Philippines in a short space of time, according to the plans of the extensive maneuvers. There are only two army transports in San Francisco at the

present time, and it will be a matter of weeks before any of the other six can arrive. The vessels already in port will carry less than 4000 men when they are crowded to the extent of being uncomfortable. That is one item in our present unpreparedness. It is a serious one when we consider how few American ships there are on this side of the country that might be commissioned as troopships in case of an emergency.

The taking of troops from the Presidio for the maneuvers near the Mexican border leaves the local garrison nearly depleted. It is far fetched, of course, to speculate on the possibility of these troops being compelled to remain away, but, if they should, the fortifications about San Francisco would be of little use without trained men to handle the big guns.

Yapping with the jingolists will not help to bring about a serious and sensible consideration of the defects in the American defense against a possible menace. We are beginning to learn something about these defects from the extensive maneuvers ordered by Taft. This thoroughly justifies the order of the President, which will, of course, be assailed by all enemies of the administration. No concessions should be made to the jingolists, neither should the protests of those who oppose reasonable preparedness in military and naval matters be considered. There is a tone of hypocrisy in the criticism of the European war experts and journalists in regard to the present maneuvers. The American people have the right to assure themselves that they have a fighting force equal to any emergency in their army and navy.

The Merchants' Association will hold a meeting tomorrow afternoon at three-thirty to consider the shippers' wharf tax.



A. P. C. CORREA.

Leading contestant in Honolulu Amusement Company's Voting Competition, with nearly 50,000 votes.

Mr. Correa, cashier at Ebner's, and a prominent member of the Portuguese colony, has recently taken a jump from a point well down in the list of candidates to the top.

